Amend paragraphs 0049, 0050, 0052, 0065, 0068, 0072, and 0073 as follows:

-- **[0049] (Amended)** The cell lines CNCM I-2544 (375), CNCM I-2545 (D10), CNCM I-2546 (15), CNCM I-2547 (51), CNCM I-2548 (59) and CNCM I-2549 (67) were cultured for 48 hours in the presence (+) or absence (-) of 100U/ml IFN-α. The expression patterns of genes encoding tyrosinase, tyrosinase related protein-2, pmel-17 and mart-1, HLA restricted, tumor associated antigens were reported. --

-- **[0050] (Amended)** IFN-α receptor gene expression is detected in IFN-α sensitive and resistant melanoma cell lines by 25 cycles RT-PCR. --

-- **[0052] (Amended)** Oligonucleotide array expression data were collected from untreated cells. Data from the sensitive (CNCM I-2544 (A375), CNCM I-2546 (ME15), CNCM I-2547 (ME51) and CNCN I-2548 (ME59)) or resistant cell lines (CNCM I-2545 (D10) and CNCM I-2549 (ME67)) were combined into two data sets. Average values for individual genes were then filtered to identify genes upregulated at least three fold in either group. --

--**[0065] (Amended)** Datasets for genes encoding MART-1/Melan-A, pmel-17 (gp100), TRP-2 and tyrosinase tumor associated antigens (TAA) were first analyzed. These four genes were found to be expressed in CNCM I-2546 and CNCM I-2545 cell lines, whereas virtually no expression was detectable in CNCM I-2544, CNCM I-2546, CNCM I-2547 and CNCN I-2548 cell lines. Functional tests confirmed these findings. Indeed, CNCM I-2545, HLA-A2.1 positive melanoma cells were effectively killed by HLA-A2.1 restricted CTL lines recognizing epitopes derived from MART-1/Melan-A, pmel-17/gp100, tyrosinase or TRP-2 proteins. In contrast, CNCM I-2548 HLA-A2.1 positive cells, that do not express the genes under investigation failed to be killed by the

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specific CTL. Remarkably, IFN-α treatment does not appear to influence the expression of the genes encoding these TAA. --

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-- **[0068] (Amended)** IFN-α receptor gene expression was evaluated by using a more sensitive RT-PCR assay. --

-- **[0072] (Amended)** This analysis resulted in the identification of a group of four genes preferentially expressed in IFN-α sensitive cell lines. Two of them, IFI16 and RCC1 encode nuclear proteins endowed with mitotic regulation and transcriptional activation capacities, respectively. A third is the hox2 homeobox gene, whereas the fourth, h19 gene, encodes an untranslated RNA, involved in the DNA methylation and genetic imprinting processes. Notably, however, one of the IFN-α sensitive cell lines, ME51, does not express RCC1. --

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-- **[0073] (Amended)** On the other hand, two genes encoding likely components of signal transduction pathways, SHB and PKC-ζ, appeared to be preferentially expressed in IFN-α resistant D10 and ME67 cell lines. --